

**Developmental Disabilities Council  
Membership Committee Minutes  
January 29, 2018  
Fox Run DDDS Offices, Bear, De.  
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Members Present: Karen McGloughlin, Karen Gallagher**

**Staff: Pat Maichle**

**Guests: Ashley (attendant)**

- I. Update on Resignations/Appointments – The only appointment we’ve had recently is Teesie Bonk.
- II. New Member Recruitment – Council and Committee – The Members discussed ideas for recruitment of new Members. We are in need of 3 new Members who have developmental disabilities, preferably from Sussex County. We have not had much luck getting Members from this area, even though we’ve tried many ideas over the years. Ideas discussed at this meeting were:
  1. Karen Gallagher will draft a letter to read at the Council meeting in March to ask for help from all Members to reach out to their communities to see if they can recruit new Members. She will also strongly encourage those current Members to choose a Committee to join if they have not already done so.
  2. The Committee discussed a media campaign using all of our media and also public media to bring awareness to the community, especially in Sussex County, of the Council and to get people involved in the work and our projects in the hopes that some will apply to be Members. We’d have to explore the cost of this option if we decided to use the air media and/or newspapers.
  3. We talked about holding an event in Sussex County to bring both western and eastern communities to enjoy. The event would need to be on the weekend and probably a full day. If we used this event to provide education to the public, we’d need to invite an advocacy keynote speaker and provide other speakers on the topics of health, fitness, and recreation. We’d need to establish community partnerships to help make this a success; such as, DDDS, faith-based organizations, health providers. Speakers would need to be people with developmental disabilities as well as community leaders. We’d need to locate a venue in both western and eastern Sussex County; such as, the CHEER Center and the Sands or other venues.

4. A final idea was a twist on the above event idea. The Committee discussed an event that did not include speakers all day, but instead, would have vendors in a large room that focused on advocacy, health, fitness, and recreation that the public could interact with while at the event and a lite lunch to entice them to come with local dignitaries welcoming them to the event. We'd make a pitch at that event to get to know us and join our activities in the hopes of getting new Members. We'd have to invite partners to join us in this event listed above as well as the Hispanic Council and others. We have to find a venue in which to hold the event and a caterer for lunch and drinks. We talked about having activities for kids so that families would feel comfortable coming.

Karen offered to get in touch with her health provider contacts and faith-based organizations to begin the conversation about partnering. Pat has already reached out to DDDS and will, again. She will also contact Wendy Strauss and Steve Tull to get ideas about venues and costs. We discussed possibly a Spring event if we can pull it off.

In addition, the Governor's office staff has offered to be on the lookout for possible new Members for the DDC with our requirements in mind.

Karen and Karen will address these ideas to the full Council in March.

### III. Other Business

### IV. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.